

Amendments To The Claims:

Please cancel claims 30-32 without prejudice.

1. (Currently Amended) A medical balloon insertable in the body, said medical device having a substantially uniform noncontinuous protective surface coating, the medical balloon is formed from a first polymer layer, the first polymer layer is exposed where the coating is noncontinuous.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A dilatation balloon having improved durability formed from a thermoplastic polymer, said balloon having a non-continuous protective coating, the balloon formed from a first polymer layer, wherein the first polymer layer is exposed where the protective coating is non-continuous.
4. (Original) The dilatation balloon of Claim 3 wherein said balloon is formed from a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, high density polyethylene, polyamides, polyether block amides, polycarbonates, stiff polyurethanes, and mixtures thereof.
5. (Original) The dilatation balloon of Claim 3 wherein said coating comprises a polymeric material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic polymeric and thermosetting polymeric materials.
6. (Original) The dilatation balloon of Claim 3 wherein said coating comprises a polyurethane.
7. (Original) The dilatation balloon of Claim 3 wherein said noncontinuous coating is selected from the group consisting of a waffle pattern, a stripe pattern and a pattern having circular perforations.
8. (Original) The dilatation balloon of Claim 3 wherein said balloon is formed from a noncompliant material.

9-22. (Withdrawn)

23. (Currently Amended) A medical device insertable in the body having a protective coating on a surface thereof, said coating being applied to said medical device in a substantially uniform discontinuous pattern, the medical device formed from a first polymer layer, the first polymer layer is exposed by the substantially uniform discontinuous pattern of the protective coating.

24. (Original) The medical device of Claim 23 wherein said coating comprises a thermoplastic polymer, thermosetting polymer or mixture thereof.

25. (Original) The medical device of Claim 23 wherein said medical device is a dilatation balloon.

26. (Original) The medical device of Claim 25 wherein said coating is applied in the form of a waffle pattern, stripe pattern or a pattern having circular perforations.

27. (Currently Amended) The A dilatation balloon of claim 1 wherein the first polymer layer is formed from a thermoplastic polymer, said balloon having a protective coating applied to said dilatation balloon in a substantially uniform discontinuous pattern.

28. (Previously Presented) The dilatation balloon of Claim 27 wherein said coating is applied in the form of a waffle pattern, stripe pattern or a pattern having circular perforations.

29. (Original) The medical device of Claim 1 wherein said coating is applied in a waffle pattern, stripe pattern or a pattern having circular perforations.

30-32. (Canceled)